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National Herald, Chinese-American Daily News, Shun Pao, Sin Wan Pao :-

SPECIAL BRANCH REGISTRY
2444

ASSASSINATION OF LIU LI-AU ON FOOCHOW ROAD

At 2.30 p.m. yesterday an assassination took place in the King Hwa Restaurant (京華酒家) at 221 Foochow Road.

Liu Li-au (劉吼鳴) alias Liu Te'an-pao (劉大鏨波), age 36, native of Pekion, a naturalised Japanese subject, was Chief of the Playwright and Directors Section of the Central Studio of the National Government in Nanking before the hostilities. He was the author of the scenario of the film "Scarlet Lilian" (紅牡丹) produced by the Shanghai Yi Hwa Motion Picture Company (藝華影片公司). After the outbreak of hostilities, he, in partnership with a Japanese, K. Matsuzaki, operated the China Motion Picture Company (中華影業公司) which helps the Japanese to control the motion picture business in the fallen areas, and he was also under-chief of the manufacturing department of the company. Later he became general manager of the "Kuo Min Daily News."

At about 1 p.m. yesterday Liu Li-au, dressed in a blue flannel foreign coat, white serge trousers and white leather shoes, went together with about 12 Chinese and Japanese friends to the King Hwa Restaurant for tiffin. At 2.30 p.m., the tiffin being over, as Liu and his friends were descending the stairs, he was shot at by a man in the dining room below. Two of the three shots struck Liu in the right breast. Liu fell down the stairs and lay on the floor with blood flowing out from his wounds. K. Matsuzaki, chief of the manufacturing department of the China Motion Picture Company, was slightly wounded. The gunman then hurriedly ran out of the restaurant and boarded motor car licence No.4632 which quickly drove off.

Hearing the shooting, several patrolling policemen hurried to the scene and at once made a search. Two men in grey woollen long gowns came out of the restaurant acting in a suspicious manner and were arrested by the Police. Liu was then driven off by his Japanese friend in private car licence No.4402 to the Lester Chinese Hospital, but on arrival there he was pronounced dead. K. Matsuzaki's wound was given a dressing and he was allowed to leave the hospital.

The Police are conducting an investigation into the case. The restaurant boys were taken to the Station for interrogation. The Japanese are also making close enquiries about this case and have taken photographs and measurements of the scene. It is learned that the Police are endeavouring to ascertain the motive of the assassination. An hour later the motor car licence No.4632 was found in the Louza district and taken into the custody of the Police.

One witness told a reporter that the gunman was about 30 years of age, dressed in a foreign suit. He had been eating in the dining room downstairs for about one hour. When he heard somebody descending, he rushed to the side of the stairs and producing his pistol fired three shots at Liu. After that he went out of the restaurant and drove off in a car. It was not known whether there was another man in the car.

Shun Pao :-

In Shanghai, Liu was well known in local motion picture circles. It was said that Liu had sent to Japan the film "Camille" (茶花女), the exportation of which had at one time caused a severe dispute in Shanghai.

3244
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September 4, 1940

TAIRIKU SHIMPO

"CAREER OF THE LATE MR. LIU HAN-HA, A VICTIM OF TERRORISM"

The remains of the late Mr. Liu Han-ha of the Central China Moving Picture Company, the central figure in the establishment of a new culture in East Asia, who has been assassinated by anti-Japanese terrorists, were removed to the International Funeral Directors from the Lester Chinese Hospital at 5 p.m. on August 3 by Messrs Ishikawa, Matsuzaki and others.

Following his graduation from the Aoyama Gakuin Institute in Tokyo, Mr. Liu came to Shanghai and studied literature in Fu Tan University. In 1931, he operated a book store known as Su Mou (水沫) on Foochow Road and also published a magazine entitled "New Literature". He published some novels and wrote comments on the moving pictures etc. under the pen name of Liu Li-au (刘吶鷗). Later he formed the Shanghai Yi Hwa Motion Picture Company (上海藝華影片公司) and afterwards went over to the Central Cinema Studio. During this period he produced pictures for the promotion of Sino-Japanese friendship under the anti-Japanese government directed by General Chiang and created sensation when his films were exhibited so much so that sometimes he was called a traitor.

Following the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese hostilities he came to Shanghai from Nanking and co-operated with Mr. Kawakita, managing director of the Central China Moving Picture Company, of which he became the Vice Chief of the production department and maintained close contact with persons connected with film production in the Settlement. He was a virtual leader of the Chinese cinema companies, such as the Shin Hwa and Hwa Hwa. He produced cultural pictures and in addition endeavoured to educate Chinese in cinema mechanics. Mr. Liu was the only Japanese working in Chinese cinema circles. He persuaded anti-Japanese Chinese authors and persons connected with the cinema to co-operate with Japanese in establishing peace and a new China.

He stressed that sino-Japanese co-operation was the ideal of all Japanese and emphasized this idea in his pictures and writings. He was condemned as a traitor.

Following the death of Mr. Moh Shih-ying (程时英), president of the "Kun Min Daily News", he observed the wish of Mr. Moh and became President of this newspaper under a policy of peace and national reconstruction.

P.T.O.

National Herald, Chinese-American Daily News, Shun Pao, Sin Wan Pao :-

CENTRAL POLICE
REGISTRY
3466
Ref. 224/40

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Kuo Min Daily News :-

"We Shall Never Submit To Brute Force"

Mr. Liu Li-au, general manager of our paper, was assassinated at 2.10 p.m. yesterday.

September 4, 1940. Morning Translation

Within the short space of a little over two months, two misfortunes have befallen this paper. The assassination of our two close friends one after the other has caused us great grief. From the viewpoint of private friendship, we have lost two respected friends and in the matter of the propagation of peace we have lost two staunch comrades. The deep sorrow in our heart is beyond description.

Mr. Liu succeeded Mr. Moh Shih-ying (莫 時 英) as general manager of this paper following Mr. Moh's assassination. Mr. Liu was one of Mr. Moh's intimate friends and in order to manifest his close friendship Mr. Liu courageously accepted the post of general manager of this paper so as to carry on the posthumous wishes of the late Mr. Moh. He had also earnestly given us to understand that his principal object in accepting this important post was to carry on in the spirit and endeavoring to the posthumous wishes of the late Mr. Moh for the welfare of this paper. He encouraged us to exert our efforts in the propagation of peace so as to appease the spirit of the late Mr. Moh.

During the past few days Mr. Liu often held conferences with us and the main topic at these conferences was how to make our paper become the ideal newspaper. While his words are still ringing in our ears, Mr. Liu has departed from us for ever.

Our mind has been so shocked that we have no time to manifest our heartfelt sorrow. We must strengthen our will and attack our enemy. We should not allow this vile and atrocious assassination have any effect upon our courage in our work to promote the peace movement. We pledge to take our part in a desperate struggle against the dictators and to fight for righteousness and for peace which is so fervently desired by the people throughout the country. Let our enemy harken to these words!

Central China Daily News (editorial)

The Suppression of Assassination

It was not so long ago that Chen Koh-liang (陳 公 梁), a chief mechanic of the Ministry of Communications, was assassinated and Huang Ke-ching (黃 克 清), detachment chief of the Police Bureau, succumbed to his injuries. Yesterday Mr. Liu Lieh, general manager of the Kuo Min Daily News, died at the hands of assassins.

At a time when the Settlement authorities are anxious about the maintenance of peace and good order in the Foreign Settlements and have requested China and Japan to discuss police co-operation, cases of assassination are frequently taking place in the Settlements, the authorities of which do not seem to know how to prevent these crimes. It makes one suspect whether the Settlement authorities are really sincere for the maintenance of peace and good order.

P. T. O.

September 4, 1940. Morning Translation

An urgent problem in the protection of peace and good order in East Asia is the readjustment of the status quo in the South Pacific; and another urgent problem in the peace movement is the settlement of the Foreign Settlements question in Shanghai. During the present period of transition, if the Settlement authorities are sincere for peace and good order, they should recognize the actualities of the situation and acknowledge that Shanghai cannot exist separated from the Government. With regard to this point, Li Shih-chung (李士群), Vice-Minister of Police, held an important conference a week ago at which he revealed China's determination. He later requested the Settlement authorities to give its reasonable consideration to this problem.

We believe that if the Foreign Settlements are placed under the direct administration of the Chinese Government, such unfortunate cases would not happen. If the Settlement authorities know how to co-operate with the Chinese Government during the present very difficult situation, they would be taking a wise step for they would be saving themselves. The Powers are efficiently maintaining peace and order in their own cities, yet in the Foreign Settlements they are encountering numerous insurmountable difficulties. What is the cause? It is because the the territory of the Foreign Settlements is Chinese territory and as such it should only be administered by the Chinese Government. Wherever a foreign settlement may exist, the administrative power of the Chinese Government over the settlement cannot be ignored. Should the Settlement authorities still fail to come to their senses and remain aloof from the Nanking Government, which has been reformed and has returned to the Capital, then it will be similar to suspending Foreign Settlements in the air while their foundations will be shaken.

The maintenance of peace and good order in the Foreign Settlements has deteriorated to such an extent that people are being killed in town in daylight while the cases of snatching and robbery can be "heaped up high as a hill". When cases of snatching and robbery can be "heaped up high as a hill", the lawful livelihood of the entire body of residents will be menaced and the peace and good order in the Foreign Settlements will suffer a general collapse. The Settlement authorities should realize that the Chinese Government cannot sit down calmly and allow the situation to deteriorate any further. Urged by its duty, the Chinese Government will be forced to take effective steps to remedy the situation.

Within two months, President Moh (莫) and President Liu of the "Kuo Min Daily News" have lost their lives to the country. President Liu's connection with the "Kuo Min Daily News" was not a long one, but he left behind a very good record. His death is deeply regretted.

Chinese-American Daily News, Sin Wan Pao, National Herald and Shun Pao :-

KIDNAPPING IN WESTERN DISTRICT.

At about 7 a.m. yesterday, a young man who was passing near Ching Sze Tu Temple (金司徒廟) on Connaught Road, out of limits, was seized by an armed gang and placed in a private car/licence number of which is unknown. It is not known in which direction the car drove off.